

For Immediate Release:

November 22, 2004

Contact:

David Vossbrink, (408) 277-3515
Communications Director

San José Remains “Safest Big City in America”

Annual study based on FBI crime stats keeps San Jose in top spot

San José ---- San José continues to be rated the safest big city in America for the 32 cities with populations over 500,000, according to findings released today by Morgan Quitno Press based on 2003 FBI crime statistics.

“Protecting the people of San José is one of my highest priorities, and I am very proud that San José remains the nation’s safest big city year after year,” said Mayor Ron Gonzales.

“Keeping our residents and neighborhoods safe is the result of our continuing investments in an excellent, well-trained and well-equipped police force, a strong commitment to crime prevention, and an effective partnership with all the people in our community to focus on solutions that protect public safety.”

This year Fort Worth, Texas, and Louisville, Kentucky, entered the top-ten list, and Seattle, Washington, and Portland, Oregon, fell off. San Francisco moved from seventh to ninth, and San Diego slipped from fifth to seventh.

The Morgan Quitno Safest City Award is based on a city’s rate for six basic crime categories: murder, rape, robbery, aggravated assault, burglary and motor vehicle theft. All cities of 75,000+ populations that reported crime data to the FBI for the six crime categories were included in the rankings. Each of the six crimes was given equal weight. Final 2003 FBI statistics were used in determining the rankings. Explanation of methodology and full details at **www.morganquitno.com/safecity.htm**.

Additional information regarding the rankings for each of the 354 cities and 320 metropolitan areas considered for the Safest City Awards are available from Morgan Quitno Press at **www.morganquitno.com**, or by calling (785) 841-3534.

#

[Table of “Ten Safest” and “Ten Most Dangerous” big American cities attached]

**2004 Top Ten Safest Big Cities
(500,000 or More Population)**

- | | |
|-----------------|----------------------|
| 1. San José, CA | 6. Louisville, KY |
| 2. El Paso, TX | 7. San Diego, CA |
| 3. Honolulu, HI | 8. San Antonio, TX |
| 4. Austin, TX | 9. San Francisco, CA |
| 5. New York, NY | 10. Fort Worth, TX |

**2004 Most Dangerous Big Cities
(500,000 or More Population)**

- | | |
|-------------------|---------------------|
| 1. Detroit, MI | 6. Philadelphia, PA |
| 2. Washington, DC | 7. Columbus, OH |
| 3. Baltimore, MD | 8. Nashville, TN |
| 4. Memphis, TN | 9. Houston, TX |
| 5. Dallas, TX | 10. Phoenix, AZ |

Source: Morgan Quitno Press, based on 2003 FBI Crime Index
www.morganquitno.com/safecity.htm
www.fbi.gov/ucr/ucr.htm